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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,651	01/23/2004	Koichi Yoshikawa	450100-04890	8556

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EXAMINER

CHANG, AUDREY Y

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2872

DATE MAILED: 12/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/763,651

Applicant(s)

YOSHIKAWA ET AL. 

Examiner

Audrey Y. Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 October 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8 and 13 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8 and 13 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Remark

- This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on October 6, 2005, which has been entered into the file.
- By this amendment, the applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 4, 5, and 13 and has canceled claims 7, 9-12 and 14.
- Claims 1-6, 8 and 13 remain pending in this application.

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed **October 6, 2005** is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: **claims 1 and 13 have been amended** to include the phrase "*display means are vertically shifted so that arrival positions of rays of light passing through said display means which are not diffracted by said light-condensing means but advance straight to not coincide with said observing positions*". The specification simply fails to provide explicitly teachings and support for such.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. **Claims 1-6, 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph**, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in

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the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.

The reasons for rejection based on the newly added matters are set forth in the paragraph above.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1-6, 8 and 13 are objected to because of the following informalities:

(1). The **amended phrase** “N images *that can* be viewed at N different viewing points respectively” in claims 1 and 13 is confusing and indefinite since the phrase “*can be*” is conditional but not definite.

(2). The **amended phrase** “wherein said display means are vertically shifted so that arrival positions of rays of light passing through said display means, which are *not diffracted* by said light-condensing means but advance straight do not coincide with said observing positions” recited in claims 1 and 13 are completely confusing since it is **really not clear** what are these rays of light and **how** do they relate to the three-dimensional display apparatus. It is believed that the light rays that are not diffracted and not condensed by the light-condensing means will NOT form image which therefore will contribute NOTHING to the three-dimensional display apparatus. These light rays therefore are not critical to the three-dimensional display apparatus and have nothing to do the three-dimensional display.

Furthermore, it is not clear the “vertical shift” is referred to what and it is not clear if it is a continuous shifting of the display means or just a single one time shift of the display means. It is also not clear if the display means are shifted from where?

The scopes of the claims with this amended phrase are therefore really unclear since there is no logical relationship between these *non-image forming rays* and the images formed for three-dimensional display apparatus.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. **Claims 1-6, 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent issued to Kirk (PN. 5,379,133) in view of the patent issued to Malcolm et al (PN. 5,037, 166).**

Kirk teaches a *stereoscopic or three-dimensional image display* apparatus that is comprised of a *display means* having a plurality of *cathode ray tubes* (01-05, Figure 5) for displaying N images that are viewable at N different viewing points, (011-015), wherein the N different viewing points also serve as the *N observation points*. Kirk teaches that the images displayed by the display means are being formed at a *holographic integrated combiner screen* (92) that serves as the *light-condensing means* for *diffracting* the images formed on the screen to the N different observation points, (011-015), (please see column 8, line 7 to column 9 line 35). It is implicitly true that a hologram has wavelength and angle selectivity which means only the incident light on the particular hologram with the angle of incident and wavelength that match the particular angle and wavelength of the light used to record the hologram will be diffracted by the hologram to the observation point and the light rays that *do not* have the matching incident angle and wavelength will pass the hologram without being diffracted and therefore will not reach the observation point.

This reference has met all the limitations of the claims. Kirk teaches explicitly that the images displayed by the CRTs are being formed on the holographic screen, however it does not teach *explicitly* that an image forming means or lenses are being used to achieve such. But it is implicitly true that certain image forming means must be present to carry out the image-forming function in Kirk image display

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apparatus and lenses are typical image forming means in the optical art to form images on a screen.

Malcolm et al in the same field of endeavor teaches explicitly to use a lens (129, Figure 6) to focus (namely forming) the image displayed by the CRT (101) on a holographic screen (102), (please see column 5, lines 10-20). It would then have been obvious to one skilled in the art to apply the teachings of **Malcolm et al** to use lenses as image-forming means, if not the case already, in the three-dimensional image display apparatus of **Kirk** to achieve the image forming function by simply lens means.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to include the phrase *“wherein said display means are vertically shifted so that arrival positions of rays of light passing through said display means, which are not diffracted by said light-condensing means but advance straight do not coincide with said observing positions”*. This feature is not supported by the specification explicitly and is rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph and is objected for the reasons stated above. It can only be examined in the broadest interpretation. **Kirk** teaches that the image display means or the cathode ray tubes (01-05, Figure 5) are shifted from a single vertical plane, (vertical plane defined with respect to the plane of the page), so that the image light from each of the display means with the proper wavelength and angular direction matched with the reconstruction condition of the holographic combiner (92) will be properly diffracted by the holographic combiner to form the respective images. It is implicitly true the image light from the display means that do not match the reconstruction condition of the holographic combiner will not be diffracted by the holographic combiner and will not form image and therefore these light will advance through the holographic combiner but not coincide with the images that define the observation positions. This is the implicit property of a holographic optical element.

With regard to claim 2, **Kirk** teaches that the number of image is three or more, (please see Figure 5).

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With regard to claim 3, Kirk teaches explicitly that the N images viewable from N different viewing points may be N images of the same object captured at N different viewing perspectives, (please see Figures 9-10).

With regard to claim 4, Kirk teaches that the holographic integrated combiner screen comprises a *number* of fringe patterns which means it comprises a plurality of holograms, (please see column 3, lines 17-26).

With regard to claims 5-6 and 8, Kirk teaches that the holographic integrated combiner screen *focuses* the images to the observation points (011-015) that are located at a *predetermined observation plane*. The observation plane is parallel to the holographic screen. Kirk also teaches that the gap between two or more of the observation points equal to a normal interpupillary distance of human eyes for stereoscopic image viewing to occur, (please see column 8, lines 50-65).

7. Claims 1-6, 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the patent issued to Aritake et al (PN. 6,061,083) in view of the patent issued to Malcolm et al (PN. 5,037, 166).

Aritake et al teaches a *stereoscopic or three-dimensional image display* apparatus (Figures 17 and 35) that is comprised of a *display device (302)* for displaying N images (#1 to #n) that are viewable at N different viewing points, (304-1 to 304-n or 1 to n), wherein the N different viewing points also serve as the *N observation points*. Aritake et al teaches that the images displayed by the display means are being formed at an image distribution part or parallel scanning part that may include *a multiple layers of holograms*, (please see layers 371, with hologram 374 in Figure 49) that serves as the *light-condensing means* for *diffracting* the images formed on the light-condensing means to the N different observation points, (1 to n), (please see column 21, lines 3-19 and column 27, lines 12-65). It is implicitly true that a hologram has wavelength and angle selectivity which means only the incident light on the particular

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hologram with the angle of incident and wavelength that match the particular angle and wavelength of the light used to record the hologram will be diffracted by the hologram to the observation point and the light rays that *do not* have the matching incident angle and wavelength will pass the hologram without being diffracted and therefore will not reach the observation point.

This reference has met all the limitations of the claims. Aritake et al teaches explicitly that the images displayed by the CRTs are being formed on the image distribution part or the holographic light-condensing means, however it does not teach *explicitly* that an image forming means or lenses are being used to achieve such. But it is implicitly true that certain image forming means must be present to carry out the image-forming function in Aritake et al image display apparatus and lenses are typical image forming means in the optical art to form images on a screen. **Malcolm** et al in the same field of endeavor teaches explicitly to use a lens (129, Figure 6) to focus (namely forming) the image displayed by the image display device (101) on a holographic screen (102), (please see column 5, lines 10-20). It would then have been obvious to one skilled in the art to apply the teachings of **Malcolm** et al to use lenses as image-forming means, if not the case already, in the three-dimensional image display apparatus of Aritake et al to achieve the image forming function by simply lens means.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to include the phrase “*wherein said display means are vertically shifted so that arrival positions of rays of light passing through said display means, which are not diffracted by said light-condensing means but advance straight do not coincide with said observing positions*”. This feature is not supported by the specification explicitly and is rejected under 35 USC 112, first paragraph and is objected for the reasons stated above. It can only be examined in the broadest interpretation. It is implicitly true that the image light from each of the display means with the proper wavelength and angular direction matched with the reconstruction condition of the holographic image distributing part (please see Figure 35, or 371 Figure 49) will be properly diffracted by the holographic image distributing part to form the respective images. It is also implicitly true the image light from the

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display means that do not match the reconstruction condition of the holographic combiner will not be diffracted by the holographic combiner and will not form image and therefore these light rays will advance through the holographic combiner but not coincide with the images that define the observation positions. This is the implicit property of a holographic optical element. Although Aritake et al does not teach about the “vertical shift” of the display means, however it is known in the art that without shifting the display means the image light that does not match the reconstruction condition of the holographic element will not be diffracted and will not form image. Whether to shift or not shift the image display device therefore contributes *no critical function* and contributes *no function* for stereoscopic image display. This modification therefore is considered to be arbitrary.

With regard to claim 2, Aritake et al teaches that the number of image is three or more, (please see Figure 35).

With regard to claim 3, Aritake et al teaches explicitly that the N images viewable from N different viewing points may be N images of the same object captured at N different viewing perspectives, (please see Figures 60A).

With regard to claim 4, Aritake et al teaches that the image distributing part or the parallel scanning part comprises a *multiple* of holographic layers, (please see Figure 49).

With regard to claims 5-6 and 8, Aritake et al teaches that the image distributing part focuses the images to the observation points (1-n) that are located at a *predetermined observation plane*. The observation plane is parallel to the image distributing part. It is implicitly true that the gap between two or more of the observation points equal to a normal interpupillary distance of human eyes in order for stereoscopic image viewing to occur, (please see column 21, lines 5-17).

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Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed October 6, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
9. Applicant's arguments are mainly drawn to the newly amended features in the claims and they have been fully addressed in the paragraphs above.

Conclusion

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

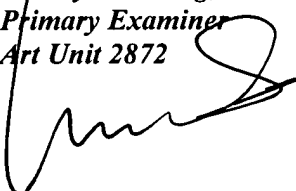
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Audrey Y. Chang whose telephone number is 571-272-2309. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:00-4:30), alternative Mondays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Drew Dunn can be reached on 571-272-2312. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Audrey Y. Chang, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2872



A. Chang, Ph.D.